10/589809

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

UNDER 37 CFR 1.121(c)

1. - 5. (Cancelled)

6. (New) A tool for applying a liquid cosmetic material, comprising: a joint unit secured to an interior of a vessel body, and having a liquid passage that causes a first portion around a first end having a valve to communicate with a second portion;

a brush holder liquid-tightly and slidably coupled to the joint unit, and comprising:

a valve seat biased to be apart from the valve, due to an elastic force of a first which is installed between the brush holder and the joint unit while being compressed; and

a holder part to support brush means;

a brush protecting cap detachably mounted to the vessel body, and covering the brush holder;

a pipe liquid-tightly and slidably mounted to an outer portion of a second end of the joint unit, and normally biased toward the second end of the joint unit by an elastic force of a second spring installed between the vessel body and the joint unit while being compressed ; and

a cartridge fitted over the pipe in such a way as to slide

along the pipe against the elastic force of the second spring, and containing the liquid cosmetic material, the cartridge being mounted to the pipe such that a potion around an outside end of the cartridge faces outwards from an open end provided on the vessel body.

7. (New) The tool according to claim 6, wherein a knocking cap is detachably mounted to the outside end of the cartridge and is guided to the open end of the vessel body, and a stopper is provided on a head of the knocking cap in such a way as to come into contact with the open end of the vessel body.

8. (New) The tool according to claim 7, wherein a spring seat is provided on an inside end of the pipe to support the second spring, a stopper link is mounted to the spring seat in such a way as to move along the vessel body and defines a maximum stroke of the cartridge, and the stopper is mounted to the knocking cap in such a way as to contact the vessel body.

9. (New) The tool according to claim 8, wherein the brush protecting cap comprises:

an outer cap;

an inner cap installed to be movable in the outer cap; and

a third spring installed between the outer cap and the inner cap, and having an elastic force greater than that of the first spring, wherein, when the brush protecting cap covers the vessel body such that the inner cap contacts the brush holder, the elastic force of the third spring is transmitted through the inner cap to the brush holder.

10. (New) The tool according to claim 9, wherein the brush means installed at a predetermined portion of the brush holder comprises:

a brush; and

a brush casing to surround the brush, with a ring provided on an outer portion of the brush casing such a way as to contact the inner cap.

11. (New) The tool according to claim 7, wherein the brush protecting cap comprises:

an outer cap;

an inner cap installed to be movable in the outer cap; and a third spring installed between the outer cap and the inner cap, and having an elastic force greater than that of the first spring, wherein, when the brush protecting cap covers the vessel body such that the inner cap contacts the brush holder, the elastic force of the third spring is transmitted through the inner cap to the brush holder.

12. (New) The tool according to claim 11, wherein the brush means installed at a predetermined portion of the brush holder comprises:

a brush; and

a brush casing to surround the brush, with a ring provided on an outer portion of the brush casing such a way as to contact the inner cap.

13. (New) The tool according to claim 6, wherein a spring seat is provided on an inside end of the pipe to support the second spring, a stopper link is mounted to the spring seat in such a way as to move along the vessel body and defines a maximum stroke of the cartridge, and the stopper is

mounted to the knocking cap in such a way as to contact the vessel body.

14. (New) The tool according to claim 13, wherein the brush protecting cap comprises:

an outer cap;

an inner cap installed to be movable in the outer cap; and

a third spring installed between the outer cap and the inner cap, and having an elastic force greater than that of the first spring, wherein, when the brush protecting cap covers the vessel body such that the inner cap contacts the brush holder, the elastic force of the third spring is transmitted through the inner cap to the brush holder.

15. (New) The tool according to claim 14, wherein the brush means installed at a predetermined portion of the brush holder comprises:

a brush; and

a brush casing to surround the brush, with a ring provided on an outer portion of the brush casing such a way as to contact the inner cap.

16. (New) The tool according to claim 6, wherein the brush protecting cap comprises:

an outer cap;

an inner cap installed to be movable in the outer cap; and

a third spring installed between the outer cap and the inner cap, and having an elastic force greater than that of the first spring, wherein, when the brush protecting cap covers the vessel body such that the inner cap contacts the brush holder, the elastic force of the third spring is transmitted through the inner cap to the brush holder.

17. (New) The tool according to claim 16, wherein the brush means installed at a predetermined portion of the brush holder comprises:

a brush; and

a brush casing to surround the brush, with a ring provided on an outer portion of the brush casing such a way as to contact the inner cap.